

Mini Resource SPOTLIGHT

NEW
SERIES



A 15-MINUTE LEARNING SERIES

Expanding the Reach of Safety:
Assessing Safety and Risk with
Survivors of Gender-Based Violence



Western  Centre for Research & Education on
Violence Against Women & Children
LEARNING NETWORK

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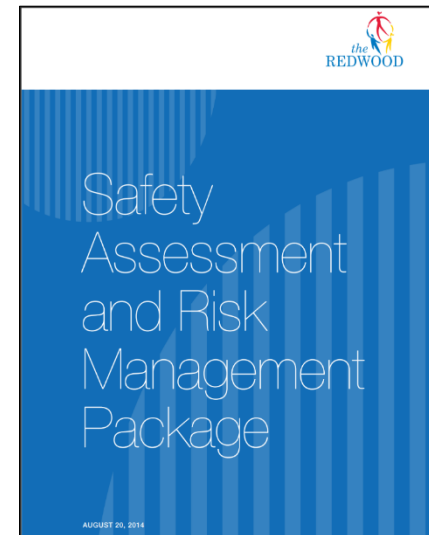
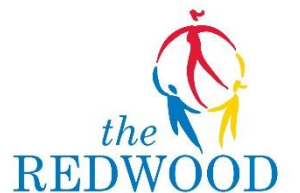
Expanding the Reach of Safety: Assessing Safety & Risk with Survivors of Gender-Based Violence

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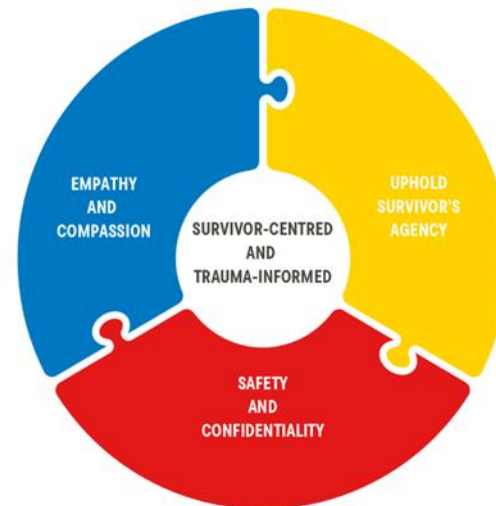
The Foundation of SARM

- In 2014, our **Safety Assessment & Risk Management (SARM)** was developed.
- Practice model grounded in evidence-based research and the collective knowledge of survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), frontline workers, researchers and so many more.
- Shift from a traditional “risk assessment” and “safety planning” approach to a **safety assessment and risk management approach**.



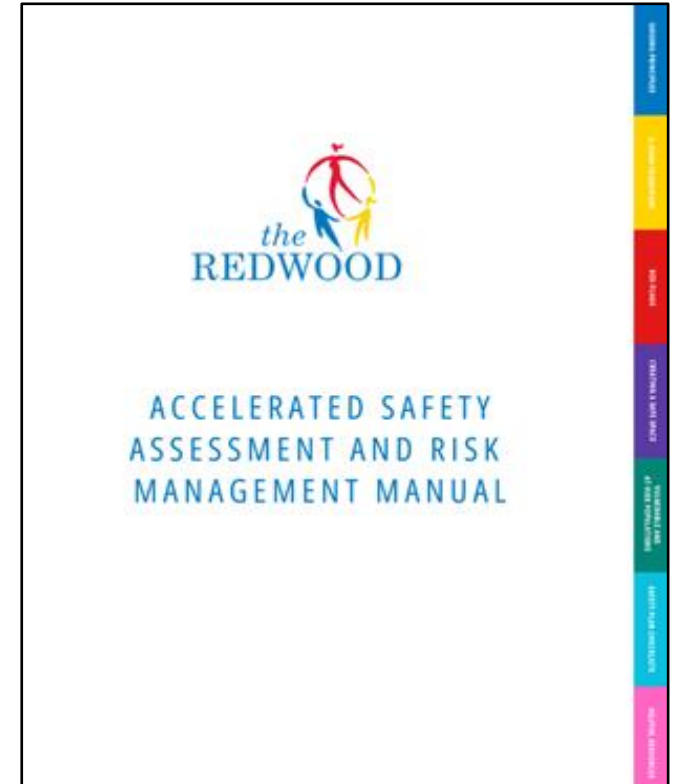
Building Capacity for Effective GBV Response

- Identifies, screens and assesses risks for individuals experiencing gender-based violence (GBV) to receive appropriate support.
 - Equips service providers with skills in:
 - Recognizing signs of abuse and high-risk factors.
 - Responding appropriately to GBV situations (e.g. disclosures of abuse).
 - Understanding trauma-informed and survivor-centered principles – making a practical and compassionate approach to GBV response.
- ...and so much more.



Introducing A-SARM

- The **Accelerated Safety Assessment and Risk Management (A-SARM)** framework is an adaptation of The Redwood's SARM framework.
- Developed for use both within the gender-based violence (GBV) sector and various external sectors (e.g. healthcare, education, wellness, hospitality etc.).
- Can be used independently or in collaboration with other SARM tools.
- Ideal for time-sensitive situations.



A-SARM Tools

Safety Screen Snapshot

- Assesses survivor's level of exposure to GBV.
- Questions 1-6, examine indicators of psychological abuse, coercive and controlling behaviour.
- Questions 7-13, examine indicators of high-risk factors and lethality.

Accelerated Safety Assessment and Risk Management

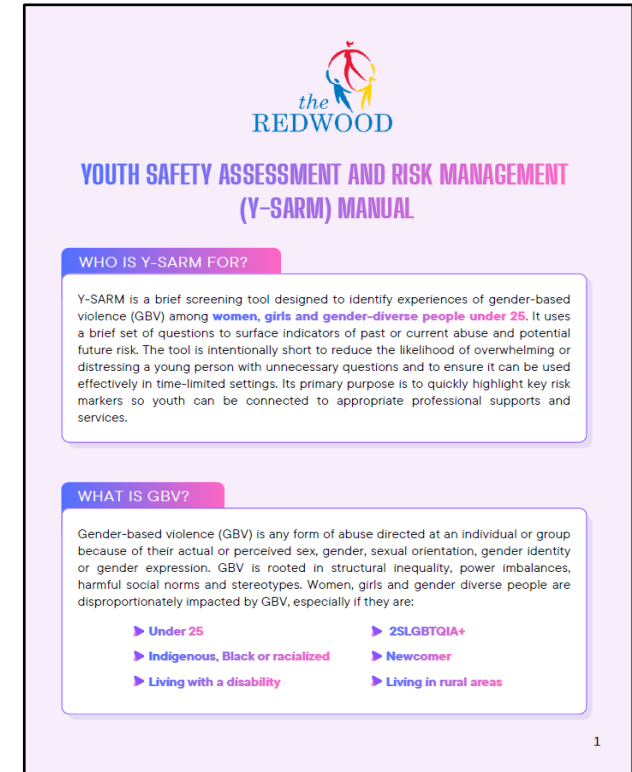
- Captures critical information about survivor's situation.
- Determines type of intervention and level of action required.
- Risk-factors categorized into 12 sections such as Controlling Behaviour, Children or Stepchildren, Risk Considerations etc.

Safety Action Plan

- Respond to risk factors identified in previous assessments.
- Consider various strategies, protective actions, connections to support systems to mitigate their risk.
- Developed in collaboration with survivor, feels realistic and doable for them.

Introducing Y-SARM

- The **Youth Safety Assessment and Risk Management (Y-SARM)** framework is an addition to the A-SARM, designed to identify the experiences of GBV among women, girls and gender-diverse people under 25.
- The manual includes sections on a variety of topics, including warning signs a young person is experiencing abuse, safety planning tips, resources for youth and the Y-SARM Questionnaire.



Y-SARM Tool

- **Y-SARM Questionnaire** consists of 14 questions. The questions assess indicators of various forms of abuse, coercive and controlling behaviour, as well as high-risk and lethality indicators.
- At the end of the questionnaire, use the **Y-SARM Score Chart** to identify the level of risk and recommend next steps. The risk levels are identified as **low**, **elevated** or **serious**.
- Y-SARM can be used in collaboration with tools from the A-SARM such as the Safety Action Plan.



Closing Remarks

If you are interested in learning more and/or
arranging a training with your team,
please contact us at:

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OR

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